

HEALTH
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C.R.

ANNUAL REPORT AS TO THE SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT OF DISS FOR THE YEAR 1943.

To the Chairman and Members of the
DISS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mrs. Holker and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year ended
31st December, 1943 which, in accordance with Ministry of
health instructions, has been considerably curtailed.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

G. O'B. VINCENT,

Medical Officer of Health,
Diss Urban District.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|--|-----|-----|--------------------------|
| Area in acres | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3,628 (including water). |
| Population:- | ... | These figures are not published this year on the grounds of national security, according to Ministry of Health instructions. | | | |
| Number of inhabited houses (end of 1943) according to Rate Books | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,049 |
| Rateable Value | ... | ... | ... | ... | £16,166 |
| Sum represented by a penny rate | ... | ... | ... | ... | £64. 1. 9d |

Social Conditions.

Any improvement in housing conditions is at present in abeyance. Overcrowding is fairly prevalent.

Water Supply.

During the year the artesian borehole at the Waterworks was re-bored and cleaned out, both pumps dismantled, overhauled and new parts fitted as required involving a cost of nearly £300.

The water supply is sufficient and of good quality but there is inadequate storage for present needs.

Vital Statistics of the Year.

| | | Total. | M. | F. |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Live Births | Legitimate | 53 | 27. | 26 |
| | Illegitimate | 10 | 4 | 6 |
| | | <u>63</u> | <u>31</u> | <u>32</u> |
| Stillbirths | Legitimate | 1 | - | 1 |
| | Illegitimate | - | - | - |
| | | <u>1</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>1</u> |
| Deaths | | 53 | 26 | 27 |
| Deaths of Infants under one year:- | | | | |
| | Legitimate | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| | Illegitimate | 1 | 1 | - |
| | | <u>3</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>1</u> |

| | Total. | M. | F. |
|---|--------|----|----|
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) | 11. | 4. | 7 |
| Deaths from measles (all ages) | - | - | - |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) | - | - | - |
| Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) | - | - | - |

The Birth Rate is in excess of the Death Rate and the general health of the community has been good. There is a rise in the illegitimate birth rate.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

See report for the year 1940.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Closet Accommodation.

| | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Number converted from Privy-Pail Closets to W.Cs. | 1 |
| Number converted from Privy-Vault Closets to W.Cs. | - |
| | <u>1</u> |

2. Number of Closets of each type remaining at the end of the year:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Number of Privy-Vault (fixed type) | 67 |
| Pail Closets (removeable receptacles) | 290 |
| Water Closets, including houses, cottages, bungalows, shops and offices | 727 |
| Water Closets at Schools and other public buildings | 63 |

Scavenging.

The work of scavenging has been very difficult during the year owing to the difficulty in obtaining the necessary labour and transport, also to the necessity of securing the use of suitable tipping sites for the refuse.

Particulars of Work ... Year 1943.

| | <u>No. emptied.</u> | <u>Loads removed.</u> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Pail Closets emptied weekly | 290 | 330 |
| Dustbins " " | 637 | 980 |
| Privy-vault Closets (fixed type) | 48 | 47 |
| Dustbins (fixed type) | 2 | 4 |

Total loads removed ... 1361

Summary.

| | <u>Loads.</u> |
|----------------|---------------|
| (a) Excreta | 377 |
| (b) Dry Refuse | 984 |
| | <u>1361</u> |

Number of Inspections made in respect of Scavenging ..928

Preliminary Inspection of the area.

1. Number of Inspections and Particulars:-

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| Housing | 212 |
| Ditto with Medical Officer of Health | 24 |
| Scavenging | 928 |
| Drainage | 284 |
| Markets | 201 |
| Factories | 109 |
| Infectious Diseases | 44 |
| Slaughterhouse | 340 |
| Ditto with Medical Officer of Health | 4 |
| Cowsheds | 71 |
| Dairies | 46 |
| Vans for human habitation | 4 |
| Shops Act, 1934 | 306 |
| Evacuees | 57 |
| Total number of Inspections | 2630 |

2. Notices:-

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| Number of Formal Preliminary Notices | 15 |
| Number of Informal Notices | 8 |
| Number of Statutory Notices | Nil |
| | 23 |

3. Nuisances:-

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Complaints received | 1 |
| Found on inspection | 24 |
| | 25 |
| Number abated by Formal Notice | 15 |
| Number abated by Informal Notice | 10 |
| Number abated by Statutory Notice | Nil |
| | 25 |

4. Defects other than Nuisances:-

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Number found on inspection | 4 |
| Number remedied by Informal Notice | 4 |

Shops and Stores. Shops Act, 1934.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Number of Inspections during the year 1943. | 306 |
| Number of Shops and Stores registered | 90 |
| Number of Offices in the District | 16 |

The following defects were found during the year 1943:-

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Insufficient Lighting | Nil |
| Cleansing of Premises | 4 |
| Insufficient Lavatory Accommodation | Nil |
| Insufficient Ventilation | 2 |
| Defective Sanitary Accommodation | 6 |
| Defective Heating Apparatus | 3 |
| | 15. |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Number of Statutory Notices served during the year | Nil |
| Number of defects remedied upon the official request of the Inspector | 15 |

The Fuel and Lighting Registration and Distribution Order, 1942.
Control of Fuel (No.3) Order, 1942
General Direction (Standard of Lighting) No.1, Aug.17th 1943.

Official observation is maintained to ensure that the above Regulations are complied with in heating and lighting.

Camping Sites.

There are no sites available or used as camping sites in this area.

Vans used for human habitation.

During the year 4 vans were inspected and found to be in a satisfactory condition.

Swimming Baths or Pools.

There are no swimming baths or pools provided for the public in this area.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

houses found to be infested and dealt with as follows:-

(a) Council Houses ... 1 (b) Other houses ... 1

Disinfestation of Fleas.

houses have been dealt with as follows:-

(a) Council Houses ... Nil (b) Other houses ... 2

Disinfection and Cleansing.

| | |
|--|----|
| Number of visits in cases of infectious disease | 44 |
| Number of rooms disinfected | 18 |
| Number of Cottages cleansed before re-occupation | 7 |

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

1. Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects. 35
Number of inspections made for the purpose 212
Number of dwelling houses recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925-1932 18
Number of houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation 22
2. Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit by informal action of the Officer of the Local Authority 40

3. Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 4

Number of dwelling houses of which defects were remedied after informal notice - by the owners 4

Remedy of defective dwelling houses rendered fit during the year in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officer ... 44

Housing Act, 1936. Part II

Number of representations made by the Medical Officer of Health in pursuance of the provisions of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936. 3

Number of Statutory Notices served on the Owners 3

Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.

| | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Number of dwelling houses overcrowded at 31st December 1943 | 2 |
| 2. Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year | 2 |
| 3. Number of cases of overcrowding found on inspection during the year | 3 |
| 4. Number of persons concerned in such cases | 35 |
| 5. Number of cases relieved during the year | 3 |
| 6. Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | Nil |
| 7. Total number of dwelling houses surveyed for the purposes of the Housing Act, 1936, Part IV to the 31st December 1943, and recorded | 854 |

N.B. The overcrowding stated above was caused by the housing and billeting of War-workers and Evacuees.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Number of Inspections made of Dairies and Cowsheds | 117 |
| Number of samples taken for "Accredited" standard | 18 |
| Number of samples taken for "T.T." test | 20 |

(Five samples failed the Methylene Blue test.
Repeat samples were in each case satisfactory.)

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Number of Producer Retailers | 4 |
| Number of Producer Wholesalers | 13 |
| | <hr/> 17 |

| | |
|--|---|
| Number of Dairymen retailing milk in this district produced in outside areas | 5 |
|--|---|

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of Dealers' Licences issued authorising the use of the Special Designation "Pasteurised" | 1 |
|---|---|

Meat.

Diss is a slaughtering centre under the provisions of Memoranda and Orders issued by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Food.

The duties of inspection are carried out by the Sanitary Inspector.

During the year the slaughterhouse at Harleston has been closed and the slaughtering centre at Diss now serves the following districts:-

Diss Urban District,
Eye Borough,
Depwade Rural District (part)
Hartismere Rural District (part)

Particulars of Inspections are as follows:-

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Number of visits to slaughterhouse | 340 |
| Number of visits with Medical Officer | 4 |

344

Number of Animals slaughtered:-

| | Cattle. | Calves. | Sheep. | Lambs. | Pigs. | Total. |
|------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|-------|--------|
| General | 1429. | 406. | 1381. | 42. | 480. | 3738 |
| Casualties | 66. | 9. | 18. | 4. | 90. | 187 |
| Private | - | - | - | - | 28 | 28 |
| T.B. Order | 3 | - | - | - | - | 3 |

| | | |
|--|-----|------|
| Number of Carcases inspected | .. | 3448 |
| Number of Carcases examined | .. | 241 |
| Number of Carcases submitted to detailed examination | ... | 73 |

Particulars of meat condemned as being unfit for food:-

| | Cattle. | Calves. | Sheep. | Lambs. | Pigs. | Total. |
|---|---------|---------|--------|--------|-------|--------|
| 1. All diseases except Tuberculosis:- | | | | | | |
| (a) whole Carcases | 4 | - | 3 | 1 | 4 | 12 |
| (b) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned. | 194 | - | 6 | 3 | 26 | 229 |
| 2. Tuberculosis only:- | | | | | | |
| (a) whole Carcases | 6 | - | - | - | 2 | 8 |
| (b) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 48 | - | - | - | 3 | 51 |

3. Weights:-

| | Tons. | Cwts. | Stones. | Lbs. |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|---------|------|
| (a) All diseases except tuberculosis | 3 | 16 | 5 | 6 |
| (b) Tuberculosis only | 3 | 8 | 7 | 10 |
| Total: | 7. | 5. | 5. | 2 |

Notes.

During the year several improvements have been made at the slaughterhouse, including a new concrete floor, also cement rendering of the walls where found to be necessary. The town main water supply has been laid on.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

There was a small outbreak of Measles and cases of Scabies occurred sporadically. These latter cases can be attributed to the temporary influx of population.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Diphtheria immunisation was undertaken by local Medical Practitioners privately and at the schools.

From January 1st to December 31st 1943 the following children received a full course:-

| | <u>Under 5.</u> | <u>5 & over but under 15.</u> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| | 26 | 28 |
| Estimated population | 250 | 511 |
| Estimated percentage immunised. | 33.33%. | 100% |

Although the number of the higher age group immunised was satisfactory, the number under 5 was definitely low.

Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis.

| <u>Disease.</u> | <u>Total cases notified.</u> | <u>Cases admitted to hospital.</u> | <u>Total deaths.</u> |
|-------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Smallpox | - | - | - |
| Scarlet Fever | 2 | - | - |
| Diphtheria | - | - | - |
| Enteric Fever | - | - | - |
| Paratyphoid. | - | - | - |
| Puerperal Fever | - | - | - |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 1 | 1 | - |
| Pneumonia | 1 | - | - |
| Measles | 32 | - | - |
| Whooping Cough | - | - | - |
| Erysipelas | - | - | - |

An analysis of the Total Notified Cases.

| <u>Age Periods.</u> | <u>Scarlet Fever.</u> | <u>Puerperal Pyrexia.</u> | <u>Pneumonia.</u> | <u>Measles.</u> |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 0 - | - | - | - | - |
| 1 - | - | - | - | 1 |
| 2 - | - | - | - | - |
| 3 - | - | - | - | 3 |
| 4 - | - | - | - | 3 |
| 5 - | - | - | - | 10 |
| 10 - | 1 | - | 1 | 14 |
| 15 - | - | - | - | 1 |
| 20 - | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| 35 - | - | - | - | - |
| 45 - | - | - | - | - |
| 65 & over | - | - | - | - |

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1943.

| Age Periods. | <u>NEW CASES.</u> | | | | <u>DEATHS.</u> | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----|------------------|----|----------------|----|------------------|----|
| | Respiratory. | | Non-Respiratory. | | Respiratory | | Non Respiratory. | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 0 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15 - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| 25 - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| 35 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 45 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 55 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 65 & upwards. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | - |
| | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

NOTE.

SECTIONS C, D & E are taken from the Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report.